

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. This rejection of the claim as newly amended is respectfully traversed. Applicants apologize for the prior use of the word "inlet" in describing the second line shown in the figures as line 3 and set out in the specification at page 12, line 3 as an "inlet line". The line is more accurately described as a second source line for the feedstock as set out at line 4 of page 12. All confusion should be removed by pointing out that material from the second source is joined with material from the first source before the combined materials enter the reactor through a single inlet line. Applicants ask that the claim be examined as still having feed material, as set out in claim 1 and as intended in the prior amendment of claim 4, enter the reactor by a single inlet line.

Claims 1-2 and 4-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harandi et al. (4,788,366). This rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-5 as amended is respectfully traversed.

Applicants reiterate that their amended Claim 1 points out that the reactor is operably connected by separate inlet lines to both a source of catalyst and a source of olefin reactant and that these two inlet lines are so arranged in respect to the reactor that the material transferred in these lines are thoroughly contacted in the reactor (see page 12, line 10 et seq. of the specification). Applicants again urge that this patentably distinguishes over the disclosure of Harandi et al. because in that patent, as described in the specification and the drawing there is no "inlet line into said reactor from a source of catalyst". It is evident from FIG. 2 that there is no separate catalyst inlet to either of the vessels because if either valve 229 or 248 is open, at least part of the feed to the reactor vessel is mixed outside of the vessel and enters the vessel as a mixed stream in a riser.

Not only does the structure claimed as amended not read on Harandi et al. but also Harandi et al. has no disclosure that makes Applicants' claimed structure obvious. The current Office Action points to the Harandi et al. disclosure at col. 6, lines 55-56 and col. 7, lines 51-53 as setting out a second inlet line. At neither citation can Applicants find disclosure of or allusion to separate lines for feeding feedstock alone and catalyst alone into the reactor. Harandi et al. mix the catalyst with feedstock for entry through a riser as well as separately feeding feedstock alone. In Applicants' claim 1, step (b) calls for an inlet line for olefin reactant and step (c) calls

for an inlet line catalyst with the two lines so placed on the reactor that the olefin reactant and the catalyst are thoroughly mixed within the reactor. This language was chosen for the claim particularly to distinguish from the fact that Harandi et al. mix catalyst and reactant before they are discharged into the reactor. The rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harandi et al. (4,788,366) is, therefore, respectfully requested to be removed.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harandi et al. (4,788,366) in view of Lashier et al. (5,689,028). This rejection of the amended claims is respectfully traversed.

Lashier et al. are cited as disclosing that Applicants' catalyst can be deactivated by contacting the reactor effluent stream with a deactivating agent. There is no citation of disclosure in Lashier et al. that supplements the deficiency of Harandi et al. in not disclosing that the reactor is operably connected by separate inlet lines to both a source of catalyst and a source of olefin reactant and that these two inlet lines are so arranged in respect to the reactor that the materials transferred in these lines are thoroughly contacted in the reactor. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harandi et al. (4,788,366) in view of Lashier et al. (5,689,028) be removed.


Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harandi et al. (4,788,366) in view of Mehra et al. (5,521,264). This rejection of the amended claims is respectfully traversed.

Mehra et al. are cited as disclosing that a solvent can be used to absorb ethylene, higher alpha olefin comonomers and heavier hydrocarbons. There is no citation of disclosure in Mehra et al. that supplements the deficiency of Harandi et al. in not disclosing that the reactor is operably connected by separate inlet lines to both a source of catalyst and a source of olefin reactant and that these two inlet lines are so arranged in respect to the reactor that the materials transferred in these lines are thoroughly contacted in the reactor. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harandi et al. (4,788,366) in view of Mehra et al. (5,521,264) be removed.

In light of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims in this application be reconsidered and that claims 1-6 be found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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